The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee

Inquiry into Salmon Farming in Scotland

Call for Evidence

The Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee invites all interested individuals and organisations to submit written evidence to its inquiry into salmon farming in Scotland.

During the inquiry, the Committee intends to:

- gather information on the current state of the industry;
- identify opportunities for its future development; and
- explore how the various fish health, environmental and other challenges it currently faces can be addressed.

The Committee would like to hear your views on the following questions:

1. Do you have any general views on the current state of the farmed salmon industry in Scotland?

2. There have been several recent reports[1] which suggest how the farmed salmon industry might be developed. Do you have any views on action that might be taken to help the sector grow in the future?

3. The farmed salmon industry is currently managing a range of fish health and environmental challenges. Do you have any views on how these might be addressed?

- [1] Aquaculture Growth to 2030 - a strategic plan for farming Scotland's seas, by Scotland Food & Drink. It is the result of a "working group of leading aquaculture businesses and organisations [who] came together to create a growth strategy for aquaculture in Scotland to 2030." It suggests a number of strategic priorities and recommendations.
- Scottish aquaculture: a view towards 2030 is "an innovation roadmap and sector needs study" conducted on behalf of the Scottish Aquaculture Innovation Centre and Highlands and Islands Enterprise. It suggests steps needed to move the industry forward.
- The value of aquaculture to Scotland is a report for Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Marine Scotland. Section 8 considers actions that would assist the industry to maximise impacts to 2030.

4.   Do you feel that the current national collection of data on salmon operations and fish health and related matters is adequate?

5.   Do you have any views on whether the regulatory regime which applies to the farmed salmon industry is sufficiently robust?

6.   Do you have any comments on how the UK's departure from the European Union might impact on the farmed salmon sector?

Please feel free to answer some or all of these questions or focus your answer on other areas of particular interest to you or your organisation that are relevant to the Committee's inquiry.

How to submit your evidence

Before making a submission, please read our [Policy on Treatment of Written Evidence by Subject and Mandatory Committees](#).

Please send your views **no later than 27 April 2018**.

Our preferred format to receive responses is using our submission template. This is available on the [Committee's website](#). Responses should be sent, wherever possible, electronically and in MS Word format to: salmon-farming.reccommittee@parliament.scot

Hard copy responses may be sent to: *Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee, T3.60, Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh EH99 1SP*

Ideally, responses should be **no more than four sides of A4 in length**.

All written evidence received may be published by the Parliament and will be treated as a public document. If you wish to submit evidence in confidence or anonymously please read the policy at the link above or contact the Committee clerks, details below.

Contact

Should you require alternative formats of this information or further assistance in making a written submission to the Committee, please do not hesitate to contact the clerking team of the Committee.

For Committee information, contact: Steve Farrell, tel 0131 348 5211, email: salmon-farming.reccommittee@parliament.scot

For further information, the media contact is: Cat Synnot, tel 0131 348 5605, email: cat.synnot@parliament.scot

For general enquiries, contact: 0845 278 1999 (local call rate), email: sp.info@scottish.parliament.uk

Further information on how laws are passed: http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/visitandlearn/100529.aspx